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have just been quiet, they would have been home free, but they fabricate a reason and create a different basis for the issue to be resolved. Sometimes when we talk about people who suffer illnesses, and I have some of these brought to me, and I may as well discuss it on this bill so that something worthwhile is done with this time. If a person is working a job and develops an illness that is not going to be chronic or going on forever, but the person is going to be afflicted with it for a period of time and that individual tries to come to work whenever he or she is able and is covered by a doctor's statement, and it's a large enough operation where that one person is not essential to the operation going forward, such persons can be terminated because they are not able to come to work on a regular enough basis to do that work. And if changes were going to be made in this law, we should look at some of those situations. Too many times people who are not working are deemed to be not working simply because they choose not to, and there might be people who fit into that category whom everybody may know. But what about those people who are trying to make it? I'm not sure what impact this bill might have but I'm not going to ask questions of anybody whose bill it is, but I have no intention to let the bill go. But if this bill ever comes up on its own and there is time for discussion, we need to consider those people who may have a health problem that is not going to be permanent but which does cause them periodically to miss work, and they do get a doctor's statement every time they are absent and they can demonstrate they were under a doctor's care, and at the time they were absent, they would not have been able to do the work of the job. So it was not like malingering or goldbricking, but those people have been fired, and I have found out...

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: One minute.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: ...that they can be fired for being unable to attend. One man was in my office just a few days ago, and the reason given was absences or poor attendance or whatever the term was that they were use...that they used. He took it to the NEOC and he couldn't get any relief because he had, in fact, been absent the times that they said he was absent. The final absence occurred when he got sick on the job, and they sent him home, and that absence was the one that put him over a line and he lost his job. So at least on that absence, if they